"People in mobile homes are especially vulnerable to damage from high winds and should go to a prearranged shelter if severe weather is predicted," Beatty said. "Don't try to outrun a tornado in a car.

"If you are in school, at work or in a mall, seek shelter against an interior wall, away from windows and skylights and out of gymnasiums, auditoriums and other rooms with large open areas or a large expanse of roof," he added.

More information, including a copy of the governor's proclamation and a tornado fact sheet, is available at http://www.nccrimecontrol.org.

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